GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:469
ANSWERED ON:21.12.2000
HANDLING OF AIR INDIA ARRANGEMENTS BY PAKISTANIS AT CHICAGO AIRPORT
GANGASANDRA SIDDAPPA BASAVARAJ;SHIVAJI MANE

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it has been reported that people of Pakistani origin are handling Air India arrangements at O`Hare Airport at Chicago;

(b) if so, whether this matter was brought to the notice of the concerned Government;

(c) whether any inquiry has been conducted in this regard; and

(d) the action taken by the Government in the matter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHARAD YADAV)

(a), (b), (c) and (d): Yes, Sir. During the visit of Director-Security of Air India to New York and Chicago in Aug./Sept.99 for inspection of security arrangements for Air India flights, he had detailed discussions with the Station Managers and also with the Ground Handling Agents (GHAs), and had expressed the concern regardingthe deployment of employees of Pakistan origin for handling Air India flights. The GHAshad pointed out that keeping out U.S. Nationals with origin from certain Countries could have grave legal implications under the US Law which could amount to discriminatory practices. Nevertheless, they had assured him that as far as possible, they will try to keep out Nationals of Pakistan origin from handling Air India flights. The Station and Security Managers of Air India, who are Air India employees, were advised to watch the situation constantly and reiterate Air India`s concern on this issue with GHAs from time to time.